

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 173022
ORIGIN AF-04

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 173022

LIMDIS FOR AMBASSADOR FROM DICK MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, CG

SUBJECT: MY THOUGHTS ON CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS

1. AFTER REVIEWING THE BACK AND FORTH ON THE NGUZA VISIT, I WANT TO SHARE MY THOUGHTS WITH YOU. AT SOME POINT IT BECOMES COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO REINFORCE MOBUTU'S APPARENT BELIEF THAT THE ONLY WAY TO CONDUCT SERIOUS FOREIGN POLICY BUSINESS IS TO DEAL WITH OTHER THAN THE SECRETARY AND DEPARTMENT OF STATE. IN MY VIEW SEEKING TO PLACATE HIM BY OFFERING HIS COMMISSIONER INTERVIEWS WITH WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS DOWNGRADES DEPARTMENT'S ROLE AND IN LONG RUN FEEDS HIS EXPECTATIONS WHICH SEEM TO BE SOMEWHAT LARGER THAN LIFE.

2. I REALIZE THAT YOU HAVE TO LIVE WITH HIM, BUT I AM AFRAID THAT PART OF YOUR BURDEN IS TO READJUST HIS SENSE OF PROPORTION. OUR CAREFULLY MEASURED RESPONSE TO SHABA
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WAS AN APPROPRIATE POINT OF DEPARTURE FOR THIS EFFORT.

3. RATHER THAN DEVISING ADDITIONAL FLATTERY, I THINK WE SHOULD BE THINKING OF WAY TO IMPRESS NGUZA DURING HIS WASHINGTON VISIT WITH THE IMPORTANCE WHICH WE ATTACH TO ECONOMIC REFORM AND HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS. ABSENT SUCH REFORMS HIS POSITION WILL CONTINUE TO DETERIORATE AND WE

WILL BE UNABLE TO JUSTIFY TO THE CONGRESS REQUESTS FOR
ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE.

4. PLEASE DO NOT CONSIDER THE FOREGOING AS BEING
CRITICAL: I THINK I UNDERSTAND YOUR SITUATION, BUT YOU
SHOULD KNOW THAT THE PREVAILING VIEW HERE IS THAT MOBUTU
MUST ACCEPT NEW REALITIES. HE IS IMPORTANT, BOTH BECAUSE
OF HIS STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES BUT HE IS NO LONGER THE
PIVOTAL PERSON IN OUR AFRICA POLICY. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, MINISTERIAL VISITS, BRIEFING MATERIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
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ISecure: 1
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